

Arizona State Citizen Corps Council
Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2010
APPROVED

A regular meeting of the Arizona State Citizen Corps Council (AZSCCC) was convened on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at Avondale Police Department, 11485 W. Civic Center Drive, Avondale, Arizona. Notice had been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the AZSCCC:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cheryl Bowen, Arizona Department of Homeland Security on behalf of
Gilbert Orrantia, Director
Jeff Clark, Chair
Tim Siemsen, Vice Chair (telephonic attendance)
Keith Lansbery
Debbie Ray
Gary White
Teresa Ehnert (telephonic attendance)
Cher Williams
Karen Hauca (telephonic attendance)
Cynthia Dowdall
John Zimmerman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

TD Kennard
Vickie Owen
Amanda Aguirre

AZDOHS PRESENT:

Cheryl Bowen, Arizona Citizen Corps Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

The following members of the public were present:
Michael Reichling, Tempe Fire Department
Sue Pistoia, Avondale Fire Department
Tanja Tanner, Goodyear Fire Department
Gabe Sezate, Mesa Fire Department
PJ Miller, Goodyear Fire Department Volunteer
Stan Brown, Maricopa County Emergency Management
Alec Tune, FEMA IX, Citizen Corps (telephonic attendance)
Antonio Hernandez, AZ Dept. of Health Services, State MRC Coordinator (telephonic attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Tim Siemsen called the meeting to order at 10:19 a.m. A quorum was present.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Tim Siemsen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Council members and guests introduced themselves. (A few Council members were arriving late due to a major traffic incident.)

REVIEW/APPROVE MINUTES

UNAPPROVED

Vice Chair Tim Siemsen called for a motion to comment on or approve the November 10, 2009, meeting minutes. Karen Hauca moved to approve the meeting minutes as read. Gary White seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLAN REPORTS

- Goal 1 – Karen Hauca reported that she had created a CD for the liaisons that included all of the contact information for the local councils in their designated regions. The CDs will be mailed to the liaisons. Cheryl Bowen will provide Karen with a AZSCCC member contact list for mailing purposes. A meeting date for the liaisons to review the AZSCCC Liaison PowerPoint presentation was set for March 12, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. The Liaison PowerPoint review meeting will be facilitated using WebEx provided by Keith Lansbery at APS. Information regarding the meeting will be sent out to all liaisons.

At the last meeting, the idea of developing a 2010 State Citizen Corps Council theme was discussed. Tim Siemsen and Cheryl Bowen presented a theme: Reaching Up and Reaching Out – Make Every Month Preparedness Month. A draft document was provided to the Council that included project ideas. It also included a concept to conduct a challenge to local Citizen Corps councils to compete for a FFY2010 Project Recognition Award based upon this theme. Local councils would submit a summary report describing the project. The State Council would review all submittals, declare a winner of the Recognition Award and recognize other best practices.

After a review of the draft document, some additional resources were identified and recommended for addition. It was also recommended that at the conclusion of the challenge, an article be written and forwarded to the national office. Alec Tune, FEMA IX, Citizen Corps Program representative indicated the such an article could be forwarded to him and he would forward to the national CCP office. The Council recommended that language be added to the document to reflect that information.

The Council will receive another draft by email; however, concurred that the document should be sent to local Citizen Corps councils as soon as possible thereafter.

- Goal 2 – Cheryl Bowen stated that she had a discussion with John Dirickson, Arizona Division of Emergency Management, regarding the possibility of conducting a statewide CCP exercise. Due to limited exercise coordinator staff, a stand-alone CCP exercise may not be possible. A regular statewide exercise is being planned in the Flagstaff for late fall. Cheryl Bowen plans to attend the initial meeting to determine whether statewide CCP participation is a viable option.

Tim Siemsen reported on the planned exercise for the Southern Citizen Corps Council scheduled for September 18, 2010. He expressed the positive impact a statewide CCP exercise could have on the program and the media attention and general awareness that may result. Conceptually, Citizen Corps volunteers could participate either in the regular statewide exercise scheduled in the North or the South.

Cheryl Bowen reported to the Council her participation in planning meetings of the Arizona Department of Agriculture. Specifically, the Department of Agriculture is drafting a response document for the National Veterinary Stockpile that would include Citizen Corps volunteers as a resource to assist in deployment of the stockpile during an event.

At this juncture, Chair Jeff Clark arrived and conducted the remainder of the meeting.

UNAPPROVED

- Goal 3 – Tim Siemsen reported that he is working with a Citizen Corps volunteer who has marketing expertise. He is currently assisting the Southern Citizen Corps Council with marketing concepts. Some of ideas developed could be used at the State level. At the last meeting, an inquiry was made about the media material that was created a few years ago. An information CD and copies of the PSAs were provided to Council members. An attempt was made to play the informational CD at the meeting; however, the applicable software was not available. Council members were asked to view the informational CD before the next State Council meeting.
- Goal 4- Debbie Ray made an announcement about the upcoming Volunteers in Police Service Conference on February 18, 2010 at the ASU Police Department. Keith Lansbery will be presenting on Citizen Corps.

Avondale VIPS was invited and participated in the recent Home and Garden Show.

- Goal 5 – Tim Siemsen and Cheryl Bowen reviewed the Citizen Corps Annex and the role of the Citizen Corps liaison. A handout was provided that described the liaison's role and responsibilities. It was recommended that a Primary, Secondary and Third liaison be appointed. Anyone interested in being the CC liaison should express their interest to Tim or Cheryl by **March 1, 2010**. Interested parties should also indicate the liaison position they desire – Primary, Secondary or Third. Appointed liaisons may be asked to attend training associated with the liaison responsibilities.

2011 Coyote Crisis Exercise

Planning meetings have begun for the 2011 Coyote Crisis Exercise. Discussion was held about the role Citizen Corps volunteers had in the past as well as what role should be advocated in the upcoming exercise.

Teresa Ehnert offered to provide contact information and help coordinate a meeting with Coyote Crisis and also suggested that someone could meet with the Executive Board. Citizen Corps could be a great resource for the exercise and this may be a great opportunity to educate the Coyote Crisis Executive Board on the Citizen Corps program.

USAonWatch

Vickie Owen was unable to attend the Council meeting today; therefore, the presentation was postponed.

FIRE CORPS- RESOURCE TYPING MATRIX

The Fire Corps section of the Resource Typing Matrix was approved, at the November 10, 2010 AZSCCC meeting, pending Arizona Division of Emergency Management review and approval. Matt Parks, ADEM, reviewed the information and did not have any concerns with the Fire Corps section; however, he suggested that the Council consider including reference to the Emergency Worker registration rule – R8-701 thru 704. Some discussion ensued whether the rule stated that an emergency worker had to be registered with the State or county. Lou Trammell, Director, ADEM, presented to the State Council on the emergency worker registration rule last year. A follow-up on that presentation and whether the registration applied at the State or county level will be conducted.

Cynthia Dowdall provided a historical background and update on the proposed Fire Corps typing matrix section indicating that she had received a proposal from Warren Sprecher. A general Fire Corps meeting was scheduled for the afternoon. Chair Jeff Clark suggested an additional Fire Corps meeting be scheduled and he would attend. Cynthia and Cheryl will coordinate the meeting schedule.

UNAPPROVED

Cheryl Bowen shared with the Council that Warren Sprecher had been named a State Fire Corps Advocate. She had contacted the national Fire Corps office to find out more information in an effort to be able to share that with the Council; however, she was unable to receive that information prior to the meeting.

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH (NPM)

Karen Hauca stated that the national office does not have a NPM theme yet and suggested the Council wait until a national theme is released before developing a plan.

Some concern was expressed that there will be a short timeframe to develop and implement a plan based upon the number of times the Council will meet prior to September/NPM.

Citizen Corps – Local Level Financial Viability

Chair Jeff Clark introduced the topic and opened dialogue on assessments of current CC programs. He shared that there was a recommendation to cut the CC program in his department due to budget constraints.

Some meetings have taken place to discuss the ability of the Citizen Corps program to continue without a budget and what could be done. Keith Lansbery shared with the Council that some councils had become 501(c)(3) entities to enable them to seek funding. Other agencies are looking at CC as a resource to provide support due to reductions in staff.

Alec Tune, Region IX, Citizen Corps, shared information about the US DHS FY11 budget recommendation and how the Citizen Corps numbers were wrapped up in the State Homeland Security Grant Program rather than a line item.

2010 MEETING DATES

- Thursday, April 1, 2010 – to be held at APS
- June meeting in conjunction with AESA Conference
- August 26, 2010
- Thursday, November 4, 2010 - Tucson

The idea of a Statewide Citizen Corps meeting as the June meeting was proposed. Cheryl Bowen will be contacting the AESA Conference location to determine whether there is meeting room availability. Maricopa County/Arizona Central Region Citizen Corps Council expressed interest in partnering on a statewide meeting. Funding for people to attend a statewide meeting/conference is always an issue.

AZDOHS UPDATES

Cheryl updated the Council on the FFY2010 Citizen Corps Program allocations. Arizona experienced a 13% decrease. FFY 2010 allocations to the counties are proportionately less.

Council members were also informed of the grant guidance requirement that all grant recipients must update/validate the Citizen Corps information on the national website.

March 1, 2010 is the deadline for counties to submit their Citizen Corps applications to AZDOHS.

Additionally, applicants for the Urban Area Security Initiative Nonprofit Grant Security Program must establish membership with a local Citizen Corps Council to be eligible.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

AZDOHS has not yet received the Governor's appointments for Chair and Vice Chairs.

UNAPPROVED

Southern Gila County is a newly registered CERT program. There is a new Medical Reserve Corps unit in Apache County.

There will be a CERT/Teen CERT Train the Trainer course offered May 20-23, 2010. As soon as the event is ready for registrants, an email will be sent out to local Citizen Corps Councils.

Members were advised of a Citizen Corps Volunteer Liability Guide that is available at the national Citizen Corps website. This is a great resource for local councils who may be addressing liability issues in their jurisdictions.

A copy of an article from La Paz County CERT was distributed to Council members.

Council member Debbie Ray was appointed to the ALIVE National Board of Directors (Association of Leaders in Volunteer Engagement). Debbie also handed up a brochure on an upcoming speaker event regarding Volunteer Management.

Debbie also shared with the Council members the need for interpreters to facilitate a deaf CERT class. Council members offered some options for assistance.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Reichling, Tempe Fire Department, announced that he has assumed the oversight responsibility for the Tempe Citizen Corps Council.

Cynthia Dowdall inquired whether any of the members were aware of a Fire Corps program in the northern part of the State.

Alec Tune, FEMA Region IX, informed the Council that the new CERT training modules to be released would address some of the special needs areas and may include something for the hearing impaired.

Stanley Brown, Maricopa County Citizen Corps Coordinator, distributed Arizona Citizen Corps ink pens to Council members and attendees.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.